

Application No. 10/543,171
Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2006

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 3. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 and 3, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-19, 21-24 and 26-30 are pending in the application. Claims 16, 20 and 25 are canceled, and Claims 17-19, 21-24, 26 and 28 are amended by the present amendments. Support for the amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter is presented.

In the outstanding Official Action, the drawings and specification were objected to because of minor informalities; Claims 23-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; Claims 16-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 16, 17, 19, 21-25 and 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Jensen (U.S. Patent No. 3,969,098); Claims 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kreinberg (U.S. Patent No. 4,973,370); Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jensen in view of Williams (U.S. Patent No. 2,709,795); and Claims 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jensen in view of Duke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,011,421, hereinafter “Duke”).

The outstanding Official Action objected to the drawings “because the present drawings do not seem to be a formal drawing. Also, some of the cross-hatching lines in the cross-sectional views use wrong cross-hatching lines . . .” Applicants respectfully traverse this objection.

The originally filed drawings are clear and precise, and any cross-hatching-type lines are intended to represent a cross sectional view of a system component. The cross-hatching lines are not intended to indicate a material. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that

¹ e.g., specification, Fig. 3.

Figs. 1-4 are formal drawings, which clearly and precisely illustrate the depicted components of the present invention.

Further, the Official Action objected to the drawings for failing to include the reference sign “S” as disclosed at p. 9, lines 24-25 of the specification, which is used to identify the “insulating plate.” In response, Fig. 3 is amended to include reference sign “S” indicative of the insulating plate.

The drawings were also objected to because reference character “52” is used to designate both a “free end” and a “connection pad” of the electrical connection piece. However, as depicted in Figs. 2-4, and as described at p. 8, lines 19-24 and p. 9 of the specification, the free end (52) of the connection piece (5) consists of a rigid connection pad (52). Thus, reference character “52” is used to designate both a free end and a connection pad since these components are one and the same. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn since reference character “52” designates the same component, which is referred to in the specification as both the “free end” of the connection piece and a “connection pad” of the connection piece.

Further, Fig. 1 was objected to as not being designated as “Background Art.” In response, Fig. 1 is amended to include a legend labeling this figure as “Background Art.”

Accordingly, in view of the remarks presented above, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claims 23-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph because “it is not clear how the at least one electrical connector terminal of the fiberizing installation can be part of the electrical supply system when the fiberizing installation and the electrical supply system are two different devices.” Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 23 clearly recites an electrical supply *system* including at least an electrical connection device, an electrical connection terminal and a current bus bar. As illustrated in

Fig. 3, these devices are configured in an electrical supply *system* configured to supply power to a bushing that delivers filaments. Thus, the specification clearly describes how the at least one electrical connector terminal of the fiberizing installation is part of an electrical supply system since it is connected to the electrical connection device and the busbar.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of Claims 23-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 16-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In response, Claim 20 is canceled and Claim 28 is amended to specify that “the fastener” corresponds to the previously recited “a fastening bolt.”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of Claims 16-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite, be withdrawn.

Claims 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements.

In response, Claims 23-26 are amended to more clearly recite the relationship between the jaw clamp, the free opposite end of the connection piece, and the adjustable mutually cooperating fastener, as suggested in the outstanding Official Action.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of element, be withdrawn.

Claims 16, 17, 19, 21-25 and 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Jensen. In response to this rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 23 recites novel features clearly not taught nor rendered obvious by the applied references.

Amended independent Claim 23 recites an electrical supply system configured to supply power to the bushing that delivers filaments, comprising:

an electrical connection device, comprising
a connection jaw clamp;
an electrical connection piece with no protection
sheath and including a flexible body, having a first end
connected to the jaw clamp and a free opposite end;
at least one electrical connection terminal *including a*
first flange fastened to a side of the bushing and a second
flange, which is attached to the first flange and is
perpendicular to the first flange; and
a current busbar,
wherein the connection device electrically connects the
connection terminal to the busbar. The connection terminal
having a connection portion on the second flange that
cooperates with the connection jaw clamp, and the busbar
having a contact surface against which the free end of the
connection piece is attached.

As depicted in Fig. 3, for example, the at least one electrical connection terminal (60-62) includes a first flange (60) fastened to a side of the bushing (13a) and a second flange (62) which is attached to the first flange and is perpendicular to the first flange. Such configuration is also described at p. 7, lines 24-33 of the specification.

Turning to the applied reference, Jensen describes an electrical heating element apparatus and control system for tubular glass fiber bushings. As depicted at Fig. 4, Jensen describes an electrical connection device including a connection clamp (454) and a connection piece (435) with an opposite end (437) connected to a plate (439) having an electrical contact.

Jensen, however, fails to teach or suggest at least one electrical connection terminal *including a first flange fastened to a side of the bushing and a second flange, which is attached to the first flange and is perpendicular to the first flange*, as recited in amended Claim 23.

Instead, as described at col. 8, lines 36-57, and Fig. 4, Jensen describes that the end of tube (416) is firmly connected by a clamp (454) to a connector (453) having leads (435).

connected thereto. Thus, Jensen simply describes that the end of the tube is firmly connected by a clamp to a connector having lead from the connection device.

At no point does Jensen teach or suggest the at least one electric connection terminal *including a first flange fastened to a side of the bushing and a second flange, which is attached to the first flange and is perpendicular to the first flange*, as recited in independent Claim 23.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claim 23 (and the claims that depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

In the outstanding Official Action Claims 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kreinberg; Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jensen in view of Williams; and Claims 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jensen in view of Duke.

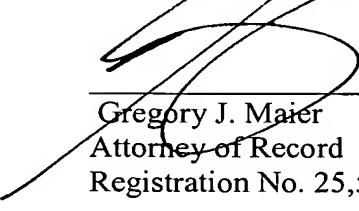
As discussed above, Jensen fails to teach or suggest the above differentiated feature recited in amended independent Claim 23. Likewise, Kreinberg, Williams, and/or Duke, neither alone, nor in combination, teach or suggest this claimed feature, and therefore, none of the applied references can properly be asserted as teaching or suggesting Applicant's Claims 18, 20, 26, 27 and 28 which include the above distinguished limitations by virtue of dependency. Therefore, the applied references fail to provide a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to any of these claims.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of Claims 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, and Claims 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 17-19, 21-24 and 26-30 is definite and patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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